

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE ROUND TABLE ON RESPONSIBLE SOY
ASUNCION - 31st - August - 2nd September 2006

FEDIOL - the EU Oil and Proteinmeal Industry - participated in the Round Table on Responsible Soy that took place in Asuncion (Paraguay) from 31 August to 2 September 2006.

FEDIOL is happy that the various stakeholders in the soy chain have agreed to the **Creation of the Responsible Soy Platform** (www.responsiblesoy.org) that gathers representatives of agricultural producers, NGO's and industries.

The different participants in this platform will be working on the definition of criteria for responsible soy cultivation, encompassing economic, social and environmental concerns and will gradually set up a system of certification*.

ABIOVE - Associação Brasileira das Indústrias de Óleos Vegetais - as well as Brazilian grain exporters have already **committed** themselves **to refrain from sourcing soy from newly deforested areas**. FEDIOL supports such an initiative and will link with ABIOVE so that this commitment translates through the whole export chain.

FEDIOL has the intention of becoming an **associated member** of this new **Round Table on Responsible Soy** and will contribute to the development of a system at the receiving end.

FEDIOL also intends to **cooperate** in this approach **with Customers and NGOs**.

FEDIOL will continue to pro-actively address sustainable production issues at both EU and International levels, via a dedicated FEDIOL Working Group.

* **RSPO - The Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil** - (of which FEDIOL is an associated member) will as well address the question of certification systems during its next session, in Singapore.